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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/705,193

Applicant(s)

BRAUNSTEIN ET AL.

Examiner

CHRISTOPHER FINDLEY

Art Unit

2621

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 June 2008.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-25 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-25 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SI/02)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments filed 6/24/2008 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.
2. Re claim 1, the Applicant contends that Minne fails to teach or suggest anything about combining the recorded images and the captured sound into captured video footage. However, the Examiner respectfully disagrees. Minne discloses a "video with sound" mode, selectable by the mode selector (Minne: column 4, lines 43-48).
3. Re claim 1, the Applicant contends that Minne fails to disclose 1) the microphone, 2) the digital video image sensor, 3) the digital audio sensor, 4) the processing unit, 5) the display, and 6) the non-volatile digital storage medium. However, the Examiner respectfully disagrees. Minne discloses the microphone (Minne: Fig. 5, MIC 90), the digital video image sensor (Minne: Fig. 5, CCD 68), the digital audio sensor (Minne: Fig. 5, MIC 90 senses sound), the processing unit (Minne: Fig. 5, camera processor 76), the display (Minne: Fig. 5, control display 30), and the non-volatile digital storage medium (Minne: Fig. 5, non-volatile memory 54). Although Minne does not explicitly state that the audio is processed digitally, one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention would have found it obvious that the audio input is converted into digital data since the output from MIC 90 is fed to the camera processor 76, which processes the digital signal from the image input section (Minne: Fig. 5, the image captured by the CCD 68 is converted to digital data by A/D converter 70).

4. Re claim 1, the Applicant contends that Minne fails to teach or suggest limiting access to the memory of the camera as the limiting use component. However, the Examiner respectfully disagrees. Minne discloses both that the memory is "installed 'at the factory'" and that the back of the camera is "removable from the digital camera 20 at a processing location" (Minne: column 5, lines 22-32), indicating that the memory is removed and replaced not by the user, but rather at a processing facility in order to refurbish the camera for re-sale and re-use.

5. Minne does not explicitly state that the battery is a DC power source and that the battery powers the components of the camera, but the Examiner asserts that one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention would have found it obvious that batteries are most commonly direct current power sources and are used as the primary power source for all the components within a portable electronic device (i.e., a camera), as is well known in the art. However, for the purposes of alleviating ambiguity, the Examiner cites Yamada et al. (US 7046275 B1) below as addressing the battery recited in the Applicant's claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. Claims 1-3, 6, 10-13, 15-16, 19, and 23-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Minne et al. (US 6950129 B1) in view of Yamada et al. (US 7046275 B1).

Re **claim 1**, Minne discloses a method, comprising: limiting a one-time-use digital video camera having a digital storage medium for a single use cycle (Minne: column 10, lines 45-54, write once memory); configuring a digital storage medium to store in a digital form captured video footage including video images recorded by a digital video image sensor and sound data recorded by a digital audio sensor (Minne: column 6, lines 31-45); configuring a microphone to capture sound corresponding to the recorded video images and to supply the captured sound to the digital audio sensor, where both the recorded images and the captured sound are combined into the captured video footage (Minne: column 6, lines 15-16); configuring a video compression component to compress a size of the captured video footage (Minne: column 6, lines 9-14); configuring a processing unit to execute instructions that operate the digital video camera (Minne: Fig. 5, camera processor 76); configuring a digital viewfinder having a display to allow a user to see the images in a target area to be taken and then recorded in the non-volatile digital storage medium (Minne: column 4, line 26, view finder 28 and display 30; column 4, lines 32-36); configuring a communication port to facilitate communications between components internal to the digital video camera and devices external to the digital video camera (Minne: column 6, lines 24-30); and refurbishing the one-time-use digital video recorder for another use cycle of the one-time-use digital video recorder (Minne: column 10, lines 18-44).

Minne does not explicitly show configuring a Direct Current power source to power the microphone, the digital video image sensor, the digital audio sensor, the processing unit, the display, and the non-volatile digital storage medium. However, Yamada discloses a digital camera and imaging method, wherein the digital camera includes a DC battery, which supplies power to a microphone, a charge coupled device (CCD), the processing unit, an LCD display, and a card interface (Yamada: column 3, lines 41-55; column 5, lines 4-10). Since both Minne and Yamada relate to digital cameras, one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention would have found it obvious to combine the battery configuration of Yamada with the camera of Minne in order to provide a portable device, where the supply voltage is converted to the appropriate voltage for the camera components via the DC-DC converter (Yamada: column 5, lines 4-10), thus ensuring optimized power consumption. The combined system of Mine and Yamada has all of the features of claim 1.

Re **claim 2**, the combined system of Minne and Yamada discloses a majority of the features of claim 2, as discussed above in claim 1. Additionally, Minne discloses that refurbishing comprises making the one- time-use digital video recorder operational for another use cycle (Minne: column 10, lines 41-44).

Re **claim 3**, the combined system of Minne and Yamada discloses a majority of the features of claim 3, as discussed above in claim 1. Additionally, Minne discloses selling the one-time-use digital video camera during a first use cycle (Minne: column 10, lines 41-44, the term "resale" indicates that the camera was sold a first time and then the camera is subsequently sold again at least a second time); and selling the one-time-

use digital video recorder for a second use cycle after refurbishing the one-time-use digital video recorder (Minne: column 10, lines 41-44, the term “resale” indicates that the camera was sold a first time and then the camera is subsequently sold again at least a second time).

Re **claim 6**, the combined system of Minne and Yamada discloses a majority of the features of claim 6, as discussed above in claim 1. Additionally, Minne discloses communicating video footage captured by the one time use digital video camera to an external processing unit to process the video data (Minne: column 10, lines 29-33, “device for producing” indicates including the associated processing involved in copying to a second medium).

Re **claim 10**, the combined system of Minne and Yamada discloses a majority of the features of claim 10, as discussed above in claim 1. Additionally, Minne discloses that a limiting use component contained within the one time use camera restricts the use of the one-time-use digital video camera for a single use cycle (Minne: column 10, lines 59-64) and the limiting use component is the digital storage medium located inside the digital video camera in an area inaccessible to the user, wherein the digital storage medium is capable of capturing video footage until the digital storage medium is full but the digital storage medium being located inside the digital video camera and in an area inaccessible to the user forces retrieval of the captured video footage to merely be obtainable through the communication port (Minne: column 5, lines 22-32).

Re **claim 11**, Minne discloses an apparatus, comprising: means for limiting a one-time-use digital video camera having a digital storage medium for a single use

cycle (Minne: column 10, lines 45-54, write once memory); the digital storage medium to store in a digital form captured video footage including video images recorded and sound data recorded (Minne: column 6, lines 31-45); means for capturing sound corresponding to the recorded video images and to supply the captured sound to the digital audio sensor, where both the recorded images and the captured sound are combined into the captured video footage (Minne: column 6, lines 15-16); means for compressing a size of the captured video footage (Minne: column 6, lines 9-14); means for executing instructions that operate the digital video camera (Minne: Fig. 5, camera processor 76); means for allowing a user to see the images in a target area to be taken and then recorded in the non-volatile digital storage medium (Minne: column 4, line 26, view finder 28 and display 30; column 4, lines 32-36); means for facilitating communications between components internal to the digital video camera and devices external to the digital video camera (Minne: column 6, lines 24-30), a camera body to contain the means for executing instructions, the means for capturing sound, the means for allowing a user to see, and the digital storage medium on or in the digital video camera (Minne: Figs. 1-3); and means for refurbishing the one-time-use digital video recorder for another use cycle of the one-time-use digital video recorder (Minne: column 10, lines 18-44).

Minne does not explicitly show means for powering the means for capturing sound, the digital video image sensor, the digital audio sensor, the means for executing instructions, the means for allowing a user to see, and the digital storage medium. However, Yamada discloses a digital camera and imaging method, wherein the digital

camera includes a DC battery, which supplies power to a microphone, a charge coupled device (CCD), the processing unit, an LCD display, and a card interface (Yamada: column 3, lines 41-55; column 5, lines 4-10). Since both Minne and Yamada relate to digital cameras, one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention would have found it obvious to combine the battery configuration of Yamada with the camera of Minne in order to provide a portable device, where the supply voltage is converted to the appropriate voltage for the camera components via the DC-DC converter (Yamada: column 5, lines 4-10), thus ensuring optimized power consumption. The combined system of Minne and Yamada has all of the features of claim 11.

Claim 12 has been analyzed and rejected with respect to claim 3 above.

Claim 13 has been analyzed and rejected with respect to claim 6 above.

Re **claim 15**, Minne discloses a system, comprising a digital video camera having a non-volatile digital storage medium to store in a digital form captured video footage including video images recorded by a digital video image sensor and sound data recorded by a digital audio sensor (Minne: column 6, lines 31-45 and 54-61); a microphone to capture sound corresponding to the recorded video images and to supply the captured sound to the digital audio sensor, where both the recorded images and the captured sound are combined into the captured video footage; a video compression component to compress a size of the captured video footage (Minne: column 6, lines 15-16); a processing unit to execute instructions that operate the digital video camera (Minne: Fig. 5, camera processor 76); a digital viewfinder having a display to allow a user to see the images in a target area to be taken and then recorded in the non-volatile

digital storage medium (Minne: column 4, line 26, view finder 28 and display 30; column 4, lines 32-36); a communication port to facilitate communications between components internal to the digital video camera and devices external to the digital video camera (Minne: column 6, lines 24-30), a camera body to contain the digital video image sensor, the digital audio sensor the processing unit and the non-volatile digital storage medium within the digital video camera (Minne: Figs. 1-3); and a server external to the digital video camera having a communication port to receive the captured video footage a processor configured to process the video footage and a disk drive to supply the processed video footage to a consumer in a video format useable by other consumer devices (Minne: column 10, lines 25-33).

Minne does not explicitly show a Direct Current power source to power the microphone, the digital video image sensor, the digital audio sensor, the processing unit, the display, and the non-volatile digital storage medium. However, Yamada discloses a digital camera and imaging method, wherein the digital camera includes a DC battery, which supplies power to a microphone, a charge coupled device (CCD), the processing unit, an LCD display, and a card interface (Yamada: column 3, lines 41-55; column 5, lines 4-10). Since both Minne and Yamada relate to digital cameras, one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention would have found it obvious to combine the battery configuration of Yamada with the camera of Minne in order to provide a portable device, where the supply voltage is converted to the appropriate voltage for the camera components via the DC-DC converter (Yamada: column 5, lines

4-10), thus ensuring optimized power consumption. The combined system of Mine and Yamada has all of the features of claim 15.

Re **claim 16**, the combined system of Minne and Yamada discloses a majority of the features of claim 16, as discussed above in claim 15. Additionally, Minne discloses a limiting use component to restrict a use of the digital video camera to a single use cycle (Minne: column 10, lines 45-54, write once memory).

Re **claim 19**, the combined system of Minne and Yamada discloses a majority of the features of claim 19, as discussed above in claim 16. Additionally, Minne discloses that the limiting use component is a capacity of the non-volatile digital storage medium designed to support only a single use cycle (Minne: column 10, lines 45-54, write once memory) and the non-volatile digital storage medium is inaccessible to a user of the digital video camera (Minne: column 5, lines 22-32).

Re **claim 23**, the combined system of Minne and Yamada discloses a majority of the features of claim 23, as discussed above in claim 15, but does not specifically disclose that the one-time-use digital video camera has physical dimensions that allows the one-time-use digital video camera to fit within a pocket. However, The Examiner takes Official Notice that digital cameras capable of recording video having physical dimensions allowing the camera to fit within a pocket are well known in the art. Furthermore, one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention would have found it obvious to make the physical dimensions of the camera as small as possible in order to increase the portability, and thus make the camera more attractive to end users.

Re **claim 24**, the combined system of Minne and Yamada discloses a majority of the features of claim 24, as discussed above in claim 15. Additionally, Minne discloses that the display to allow a user to review and its associated controls allow the user to delete video footage that has been recorded on the non-volatile digital storage medium (Minne: column 4, lines 32-36).

Re **claim 25**, the combined system of Minne and Yamada discloses a majority of the features of claim 25, as discussed above in claim 15. Additionally, Minne discloses that the disk drive embeds the processed video content onto a non-volatile digital storage medium (Minne: column 10, lines 25-33).

8. Claims 4-5, 8-9, and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Minne et al. (US 6950129 B1) in view of Yamada et al. (US 7046275 B1) as applied to claims 1-3, 6, 10-13, 15-16, 19, and 23-25 above, and further in view of Matsuura et al. (US 20010030773 A1).

Re **claim 4**, the combined system of Minne and Yamada discloses a majority of the features of claim 4, as discussed above regarding claim 3, but neither Minne nor Yamada specifically discloses that a manufacturer sells the one-time-use digital video camera to a vendor. However, Matsuura discloses a digital photograph system, wherein a one-time-use digital camera is refurbished for future use and resale by a recycling center, which in turn sells the camera to a store for resale to the consumer (Matsuura: Fig. 2, "buy-in" between the recycling center and the store). Since Minne, Yamada, and Matsuura relate to digital cameras, one of ordinary skill in the art at the

time of the invention would have found it obvious to combine the recycling and resale process of Matsuura with the similar refurbishing process of the combined system of Minne and Yamada in order to make the camera more affordable to the consumer, while still allowing the manufacturer and vendor to attain a profit. The combined system of Minne, Yamada, and Matsuura has all of the features of claim 4.

Re **claim 5**, the combined system of Minne and Yamada discloses a majority of the features of claim 5, as discussed above in claim 3. Minne and Yamada do not specifically disclose that a vendor sells the one-time-use digital video camera to a consumer. However, Matsuura discloses a digital photograph system, wherein a one-time-use digital camera is refurbished for future use and resale by a recycling center, which in turn sells the camera to a store for resale to the consumer (Matsuura: Fig. 2, "purchase"). Since Minne, Yamada, and Matsuura relate to digital cameras, one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention would have found it obvious to combine the recycling and resale process of Matsuura with the similar refurbishing process of the combined system of Minne and Yamada in order to make the camera more affordable to the consumer, while still allowing the manufacturer and vendor to attain a profit. The combined system of Minne, Yamada, and Matsuura has all of the features of claim 5.

Re **claim 8**, the combined system of Minne and Yamada discloses a majority of the features of claim 8, as discussed above in claim 1. Minne and Yamada do not specifically disclose distributing the one-time-use digital video camera to a retailer for a consumer to purchase. However, Matsuura discloses a digital photograph system,

wherein a one-time-use digital camera is refurbished for future use and resale by a recycling center, which in turn sells the camera to a store for resale to the consumer (Matsuura: Fig. 2, the recycling center sends refurbished cameras to the store to be sold to the customer). Since Minne, Yamada, and Matsuura relate to digital cameras, one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention would have found it obvious to combine the recycling and resale process of Matsuura with the similar refurbishing process of the combined system of Minne and Yamada in order to make the camera more affordable to the consumer, while still allowing the manufacturer and vendor to attain a profit. The combined system of Minne, Yamada, and Matsuura has all of the features of claim 8.

Re **claim 9**, the combined system of Minne and Yamada discloses a majority of the features of claim 9, as discussed above in claim 1. Minne and Yamada do not specifically disclose forcing a consumer to return the one-time-use digital video camera to a vendor in order for the consumer to obtain video content captured during the use cycle. However, Matsuura discloses a digital photograph system, wherein a one-time-use digital camera is refurbished for future use and resale by a recycling center, which in turn sells the camera to a store for resale to the consumer and the terminal must be verified in order to access the memory (Matsuura: Fig. 9). Since Minne, Yamada, and Matsuura relate to digital cameras, one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention would have found it obvious to combine the recycling and resale process of Matsuura with the similar refurbishing process of the combined system of Minne and Yamada in order to make the camera more affordable to the consumer, while still

allowing the manufacturer and vendor to attain a profit. The combined system of Minne, Yamada, and Matsuura has all of the features of claim 9.

Re **claim 20**, the combined system of Minne and Yamada disclose a majority of the features of claim 20, as discussed above in claim 15. Minne and Yamada do not specifically disclose that the processor within the digital video camera is configured to store the video content in a non-consumable format only visible in an intelligible form from the external server and the one-time-use digital camera. However, Matsuura discloses a digital photograph system, wherein a one-time-use digital camera is refurbished for future use and resale by a recycling center, which in turn sells the camera to a store for resale to the consumer and the terminal must be verified in order to access the memory (Matsuura: Fig. 7; paragraph [0043], verifying an authorized terminal). Since Minne, Yamada, and Matsuura relate to digital cameras, one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention would have found it obvious to combine the recycling and resale process of Matsuura with the similar refurbishing process of the combined system of Minne and Yamada in order to make the camera more affordable to the consumer, while still allowing the manufacturer and vendor to attain a profit. The combined system of Minne, Yamada, and Matsuura has all of the features of claim 20.

9. Claims 7, 14, and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Minne et al. (US 6950129 B1) in view of Yamada et al. (US

7046275 B1) as applied to claims 1-3, 6, 10-13, 15-16, 19, and 23-25 above, and further in view of Culp et al. (US 6973453 B2).

Re **claim 7**, the combined system of Minne and Yamada discloses a majority of the features of claim 7, as discussed in claim 1 above, but neither Minne nor Yamada specifically disclose enhancing quality of video data captured by the one time use digital video camera with an external processing unit. However, Culp discloses an image collection enhancement method, in which a user's image collection may be augmented by professional pictures (Culp: column 1, lines 54-67; column 2, lines 13-22). Culp further discloses the possibility of utilizing software applications for enhancing the quality of the image collection (Culp: column 1, lines 27-35; column 2, lines 3-12). Since Minne, Yamada, and Culp relate to processing digital images, one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention would have found it obvious to combine the organizational method of Culp with the digital camera system of Minne and Yamada in order to enhance the user's picture/video collection by supplementing it with additional photos (Culp: column 1, lines 41-44) when the customer turns in the camera (Culp: column 4, lines 49-51). The combined system of Minne, Yamada, and Culp has all of the features of claim 7.

Claim 14 has been analyzed and rejected with respect to claim 7 above.

Re **claim 22**, the combined system of Minne and Yamada discloses a majority of the features of claim 22, as discussed above in claim 15, but neither Minne nor Yamada specifically disclose the external server to enhance the original captured video content by adding in stock video intermixed with the original captured video footage when a

video product is supplied to a consumer. However, Culp discloses an image collection enhancement method, in which a user's image collection may be augmented by professional pictures (Culp: column 2, lines 3-12; Fig. 3, professional images may be added in with the user's images). Since Minne, Yamada, and Culp relate to processing digital images, one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention would have found it obvious to combine the organizational method of Culp with the digital camera system of Minne and Yamada in order to enhance the user's picture/video collection by supplementing it with additional photos (Culp: column 1, lines 41-44) when the customer turns in the camera (Culp: column 4, lines 49-51). The combined system of Minne, Yamada, and Culp has all of the features of claim 22.

10. Claims 17 and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Minne et al. (US 6950129 B1) in view of Yamada et al. (US 7046275 B1) as applied to claims 1-3, 6, 10-13, 15-16, 19, and 23-25 above, and further in view of Haas et al. (US 20040012810 A1).

Re **claim 17**, the combined system of Minne and Yamada discloses a majority of the features of claim 17, as discussed above in claim 16, but neither Minne nor Yamada specifically disclose that the limiting use component is a clock circuit to monitor an amount of time the video has been recording and after a preset amount of time occurs to trigger a signal to disable the one-time use digital video camera from further use in the current use cycle. However, Haas discloses a system for presenting images captured at an event during the event, where event patrons are provided with

disposable cameras (Haas: paragraph [0009]) that are equipped with a time limit feature, which disables operation of the camera after expiration of a given period of time (Haas: paragraph [0026]). Since Minne, Yamada, and Haas all relate to processing digital images, one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention would have found it obvious to combine the digital camera system of Minne and Yamada with the time limiting feature of Haas, in order to provide photo processing at an event and allow the customer to immediately order pictures from a disposable camera used at special events (Haas: paragraph [0009]). The combined system of Minne, Yamada, and Haas has all of the features of claim 17.

Re **claim 21**, the combined system of Minne and Yamada discloses a majority of the features of claim 21, as discussed above in claim 15, but neither Minne nor Yamada specifically disclose the external server to enhance the captured video content with meta data recorded at the time the video content was filmed. However Haas discloses a system for presenting images captured at an event during the event, where event patrons are provided with disposable cameras (Haas: paragraph [0009]) that provide metadata for the images (Haas: paragraph [0032]). Since Minne, Yamada, and Haas all relate to processing digital images, one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention would have found it obvious to combine the digital camera system of Minne and Yamada with the metadata feature of Haas, in order to provide photo processing at an event and allow the customer to immediately order pictures from a disposable camera used at special events (Haas: paragraph [0009]). The combined system of Minne, Yamada, and Haas has all of the features of claim 21.

11. Claim 18 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Minne et al. (US 6950129 B1) in view of Yamada et al. (US 7046275 B1) as applied to claims 1-3, 6, 10-13, 15-16, 19, and 23-25 above, and further in view of Tanaka et al. (US 20030001959 A1).

Re **claim 18**, the combined system of Minne and Yamada discloses a majority of the features of claim 18, as discussed above in claim 16, but neither Minne nor Yamada specifically disclose that the limiting use component is an amount of battery power contained in the video camera designed-to support only a single use cycle and replacement of the battery power is inaccessible to a user of the digital video camera. However, Tanaka discloses a digital camera and recycle method thereof, where the operability of a rented digital camera is limited to the life of a battery, which is inaccessible to the user (Tanaka: paragraph [0116]). Since Minne, Yamada, and Tanaka all relate to processing digital images, one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention would have found it obvious to combine the digital camera system of Minne and Yamada with the battery monitoring capability of Tanaka in order to promote timely return of the rented camera (Tanaka: paragraph [0117]). The combined system of Minne, Yamada, and Tanaka has all of the features of claim 18.

Conclusion

12. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure:

- a. Method, business processes and apparatus for remote data, image and video collection, transmission and distribution using cellular electronic serial number enabled devices

Strisower (US 20040083275 A1)

- b. Digital camera capable of being collected for reuse

Okada et al. (US 20010040625 A1)

- c. Digital camera system and camera recycle system

Kubota (US 20030001957 A1)

- d. Digital camera with reduced image buffer memory and minimal processing for recycling through a service center

Meitav et al. (US 20040252201 A1)

Contact

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to CHRISTOPHER FINDLEY whose telephone number is (571)270-1199. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday, 8:30AM-5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Marsha D. Banks-Harold can be reached on 571-272-7905. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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